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be effective occasionally in the classroom, with elementary students, but which offends the historical sense of the scholar when encountered throughout most of an entire volume. Again, a large part of this book is devoted to imaginary conversations and emotions, conjured up by the author and attributed to the various characters introduced. Sensations and emotions are attributed even to rivers. The style of the book is such that the reviewer gained the impression that it must be intended for youthful readers, taking their first steps in American history, yet the publishers' statement and the "Foreword" contain no such hint. There are no footnotes, no bibliography, no direct references to sources used, and no index. The two phases of Lafayette's career treated in this volume are less satisfactorily presented than in two chapters of *The true La Fayette*. If the books are compared on the score of content value, and the price of Mr. Morgan's book is taken as a "fair price," the decimal point in the price of the one under consideration should precede and not follow the five. The book will be of little interest or value to readers of this REVIEW.

*Handbook of aboriginal American antiquities.* Part 1: Introductory, The lithic industries. By W. H. Holmes. [Smithsonian institution, Bureau of American ethnology, Bulletin 60 part 1] (Washington: Government printing office, 1919. 380 p.)

The *Handbook of American Indians*, published as Bulletin 30 of the Bureau of American ethnology some years ago, has proved so highly valuable a reference work that the bureau has determined to supplement it with a series of at least twelve handbooks covering in more comprehensive fashion the major divisions of Indian ethnology. In this series, the *Handbook of American Indian languages* has already been published; the present volume is the first part of a *Handbook of aboriginal American antiquities*.

"It is in large measure," says Mr. Holmes, "introductory to the systematic presentation of the antiquities; it deals with the scope of archeologic science, the character, extent, and classification of its subject matter, the progress of research; with the several important problems which present themselves for solution . . . with the ethnic characterization areas; with the acquirement of the substances employed in the arts; and finally with the manipulation of stone." A second volume, which it is to be hoped will follow soon, will be devoted to the implements, utensils, and other minor artifacts of stone.

Mr. Holmes' broad knowledge of the whole field of archaeology and his thorough familiarity with all the researches of the Bureau of American ethnology equip him especially well to write a reference book that

will long stand as authoritative. The present work, when completed, is certain very promptly to become indispensable to the special student and highly useful to the layman.

*The American municipal executive.* By Russell McCulloch Story, Ph.D. [University of Illinois studies in the social sciences, volume VII, number 3] (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1918. 231 p. \$1.25)

Mr. Story has written a useful, readable, and well-arranged monograph based mainly upon a study of a large number of municipal charters. The book not only deals with the strictly legal position of the mayoralty but also includes interesting chapters on the extra-legal influence of the mayor, his relations to local and state politics, and on the personality of the mayor—aspects of the office which are hardly second in importance to its legal powers and limitations.

A brief historical sketch of the development of the mayoralty is followed by chapters describing the mayoral constitution today and the mayor's powers and duties in the fields of administration and legislation. Naturally the greater portion of the book has to do with the usual mayor-and-council type of government, where the office of mayor has steadily increased in importance not only in connection with administration and legislation but in public appreciation as well. For good measure, chapters are added which discuss the diminished influence and importance of the mayoralty in the commission and commissioner-manager types of government.

In common with other writers, Mr. Story seems to exaggerate the influence of the so-called federal analogy, especially in his comments on the Baltimore charter of 1796 (p. 24). The electoral college feature in that charter may quite as probably have been copied from the existing Maryland constitution as from the federal constitution; indeed, the Maryland constitution of 1776 was probably the real source of the electoral college provisions in the federal constitution. In other respects also, the reputed influence of the federal analogy upon municipal charters has at least been challenged, a fact which apparently has been overlooked in this monograph.<sup>1</sup>

A further exception may be noted to Mr. Story's over-positive assertions as to the epochal importance of Mayor Quincy's administration in Boston, beginning in 1823, and its influence upon the development of the mayoralty in other cities (pp. 25-28). Definite citations of historical evidence of this influence are needed to make the writer's claims

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. McBain's article, "The evolution of types of city government in the United States," in *National municipal review*, 6: 19.